



Encyclopaedia Aristasiana

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The Void

The Void is the term for the state of Western and Western-influenced Telluria following the Eclipse. More frequently, and more colloquially, it is termed the Pit, however the terms are subtly different, as pointed out in the introductory glossary to the Aristasian novel *Children of the Void*, 1996:

The Pit is also called the Void, but the two terms are not interchangeable. 'Pit' refers to the deracinated contents of the post-Eclipse world, while 'Void' refers to its utter emptiness of anything of value or interest--just as the sea is void of fresh water or the desert void of everything but sand. The Void is the Pit as seen from within Aristasia - simply a yawning nothingness, defined not by what it is, but by what it is not. It is in this sense that Aristasians are Children of the Void. Bongos are Children of the Pit because they are shaped by the specific contents of the Pit, by its distortions and neuroses - by its attempts to escape its own ugliness through 'alternative' uglinesses, or its attempts to find rest in conformity to the 'standard' ugliness, or any of the thousand mix-and-match permutations of Pit-poisoning. Aristasians are Children of the Void because they are shaped not by the specific contents of the Pit, but by the experience of living surrounded by a wholly rejected nothingness and having to re-create the psychic world in order to have a world in which to exist at all.

The Void, or Pit, is characterised by the three poisons of Atomisation, Deracination and Deformism.

Created by: miss_serena. Last Modification: Friday 13 of March, 2009 19:15:57 EDT by miss_serena.

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